

## **10. TALK GROUPS**

### **10.1 GENERAL**

Not all talk groups are monitored by the Dispatch Center, however all are recorded. The talk groups are designated **Monitored by Dispatch, Monitored if assigned to an Incident by Dispatch and Not Routinely Monitored**. The general public can monitor the radio traffic if they have the proper monitoring equipment.

### **10.2 SPECIAL EVENTS TALK GROUPS**

There are Four Special Event/Administrative Talk Groups:

SE-ADMIN A  
SE-ADMIN B  
SE-ADMIN C  
SE-ADMIN D

These are used for special events (e.g. Fair, Carnivals or other Special Events), trainings or other administrative reasons and are not monitored by the Communications Center. Contact the 911 Shift Supervisor by phone for permission to use these talk groups. If an Agency wants these channels to be monitored they should provide a written request one week in advance of the event to the 911 Director or his/her designee. These talk groups could be used in conjunction with the Mobile Communications Unit (MCU).

### **10.3 MUNICIPAL AND INTRA STATION COMMUNICATIONS (ISC) TALK GROUPS**

The Municipal 1-8 and ISC Talk Groups are used as second, non-emergency operations talk groups for all agencies.

### **10.4 POLICE TALK GROUPS**

Police talk groups are broken down into the following:

- City 1
- Metro 2
- North 3
- East 4
- West 5

- DA 6
- Sheriff 7

Pre-planned events (i.e. warrant detail, DUI detail) will be assigned a separate talk group. In-progress officer safety incidents (i.e. pursuit, shots fired at officers) will remain on the main talk group. Other routine traffic will be assigned a separate talk group. In-progress incidents that have stabilized (i.e. subject now barricaded, waiting on QRT response) will be assigned a separate talk group as soon as possible so routine traffic can return to the main talk group.

#### 10.4A

##### CITY 1

- The only agency assigned to this talk group is York City Police
- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - City 1 (Main Talk Group) – Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 1A – (City 2 Talk Group) - Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 1B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 1C – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - CAR-CAR 1 – (Used for car to car communications) – not routinely monitored
- Routine Traffic
  - will always use the City 1 talk group
- Major Incident Talk Group
  - If an incident warrants a secondary talk group, the request will go to the dispatcher and they will announce the secondary talk group for their operations
  - The first talk group that will be assigned for a major City Police incident would be TAC 1B
  - A second incident will be assigned TAC 1C

10.4B METRO 2

- This includes the following police agencies:
  - Springettsbury Township PD
  - West Manchester Township PD
  - West York Borough PD
  - Spring Garden Township PD
- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - Metro 2 (Main Talk Group) – Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 2A – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 2B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 2C– (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - CAR-CAR 2 – (Used for Car to Car Communications) – Not routinely monitored
- Routine Traffic
  - will always use the Metro 2 talk group
- Major Incident Talk Group
  - If an incident warrants a secondary talk group, the request will go to the dispatcher and they will announce the secondary talk group for their operations
  - The first talk group that will be assigned for a major Metro incident would be TAC 2B
  - A second incident will be assigned TAC 2C

10.4C NORTH 3

- This includes the following police agencies:
  - Northern Regional PD
  - Northeastern Regional PD
  - Carroll Township PD
  - Newberry Township PD
  - Fairview Township PD
  - Pinchot Park Rangers
- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - North 3 (Main Talk Group) – Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 3A – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 3B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 3C– (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - CAR-CAR 3 – (Used for Car to Car Communications) – Not routinely monitored
- Routine Traffic
  - will always use the North 3 talk group
- Major Incident Talk Group
  - If an incident warrants a secondary talk group, the request will go to the dispatcher and they will announce the secondary talk group for their operations
  - The first talk group that will be assigned for a major North incident would be TAC 3B
  - A second incident will be assigned TAC 3C

10.4D

EAST 4

- This includes the following municipalities and police agencies:
  - York Area Regional PD
  - Lower Windsor Township PD
  - Wrightsville Borough PD
  - Hellam Township PD
  - North Hopewell Township PD
  - Stewartstown Borough PD
  - Sam Lewis Park Rangers
  - York County Park Rangers
- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - East 4 (Main Talk Group) – Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 4A – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 4B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 4C– (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - CAR-CAR 4 – (Used for Car to Car Communications) – Not routinely monitored
- Routine Traffic
  - will always use the East 4 talk group
- Major Incident Talk Group
  - If an incident warrants a secondary talk group, the request will go to the dispatcher and they will announce the secondary talk group for their operations
  - The first talk group that will be assigned for a major East incident would be TAC 4B
  - A second incident will be assigned TAC 4C

10.4E

WEST 5

- This includes the following municipalities and police agencies:
  - Southwestern Regional PD
  - Southern Regional PD
  - Penn Township PD
  - Hanover Borough PD
  - Codorus Park Rangers
  - West Manheim Township PD
  - PA Fish and PA Game Commission
  - Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - West 5 (Main Talk Group) – Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 5A – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 5B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 5C– (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - CAR-CAR 5 – (Used for Car to Car Communications) – Not routinely monitored
- Routine Traffic
  - will always use the West 5 talk group
- Major Incident Talk Group
  - If an incident warrants a secondary talk group, the request will go to the dispatcher and they will announce the secondary talk group for their operations
  - The first talk group that will be assigned for a major West incident would be TAC 5B
  - A second incident will be assigned TAC 5C

10.4F DA 6

- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - DA 6 (Main Talk Group) – Not monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 6A – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Not Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 6B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Not Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 6C – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Not Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - CAR-CAR 6 – (Used for Car to Car Communications) – Not routinely monitored

10.4G SHERIFF 7

- The only agency assigned to this talk group is the York County Sheriff's Office
- Radio Profile (All Radios)
  - Sheriff 7 (Main Talk Group) – Monitored by Dispatch
  - TAC 7A – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 7B – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - TAC 7C – (Major Incident Talk Group) – Monitored if assigned to an incident by dispatch
  - Courts 1 – (Used in court room facilities) Not routinely monitored
  - Courts 2 – (Used in court room facilities) – Not routinely monitored

**10.5 FIRE/EMS TALK GROUPS**

**10.5A GENERAL**

Fire/EMS talk groups are broken down into the following:

- Dispatch
- OPS 2
- OPS 3
- OPS 4
- OPS 5
- OPS 6
- OPS 7
- OPS 8
- OPS 9
- OPS 10
- OPS 11
- OPS 12
- OPS 13
- OPS 14
- OPS 15
- OPS 16

**10.5B DISPATCH TALK GROUP**

- The County has committed to continuing the practice of a voice announcement in conjunction with the digital paging notification.
- This announcement will be made on the Dispatch talk group for all fire, EMS, fire police, EMA and Hazmat dispatches.
- The Dispatcher will make a single voice announcement.
  - An example of a typical voice dispatch:  
  
“Springettsbury Township, 120 Davies Drive, cross streets of Heindel Road and the dead end, at the York County Department of Emergency Services, Automatic Fire Alarm. Box 89-34. Engine 89-3, Engine 89-4, Engine 21-1 and Truck 89-1 are due, OPS 2, 1550 hours.”



10.5C OPS TALK GROUPS

- Routine incidents will be worked on OPS 2 through OPS 5 and the talk group assigned to the incident is dependent on the municipality's geographic area assignment (e.g. metro, north, west or east). This talk group will be routinely monitored by the Communications Center.
- Significant incidents will be moved by the Communications Center to its own OPS talk group (OPS 6 - OPS 16) either upon dispatch or as units respond. The following types of calls will be assigned a separate talk group, either upon dispatch if evident or when the situation occurs:
  - Structure fires
  - Hot HazMat assignments
  - Mass Casualty Incidents
  - Special Rescues
  - Long-term Search Details
  - Any situation the dispatcher deems necessary

This talk group will be routinely monitored by the Communications Center.

- Units/Incidents may not move outside their assigned OPS talk groups unless authorized by the Dispatcher.
- Chief Officers or Command may request that an incident be moved to another OPS talk group should an incident become more significant and/or involved than initially determined.
- Obviously with the number of operational talk groups not all field operations can have its own OPS talk group and successfully be monitored from the Communications Center.
- Incidents where Dispatcher intervention is necessary and this is not evident on Dispatch, Command will notify the Communications Center of that request.

- If a Dispatcher is unable to monitor an operational talk group the Chief Officer or Command will be notified which OPS talk group to communicate back to Dispatch.
- Units are to respond on the home talk group of the incident.
- York City Fire will be contacted on City Fire Admin talk group for routine messages.

10.5D OPS 2 Talk Group

- This is the primary responding talk group for fire and EMS departments located in the Metro Area and includes:

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| • Station 1  | • EMS Station 1   |
| • Station 2  | • EMS Station 24  |
| • Station 5  | • EMS Station 89  |
| • Station 24 | • EMS Station 250 |
| • Station 25 | • Medic 97-1      |
| • Station 89 | • Medic 97-4      |
| • Station 99 | • Medic 102-1     |
|              | • Medic 102-2     |

If additional talk groups are needed, the Incident Commander will advise communications and they will be assigned if available. The order will be:

OPS6, OPS7

10.5E OPS 3 Talk Group

- This is the primary responding talk group for fire and EMS departments located in the North Area and includes:

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| • Station 6  | • EMS Station 6  |
| • Station 9  | • EMS Station 23 |
| • Station 22 | • EMS Station 28 |
| • Station 23 | • EMS Station 31 |
| • Station 26 | • EMS Station 64 |
| • Station 27 | • EMS Station 68 |
| • Station 28 | • EMS Station 68 |
| • Station 29 | • EMS Station 69 |
|              | • Medic 98       |

- Station 31
- Station 64
- Station 65
- Station 66
- Station 67
- Station 68
- Station 69

If additional talk groups are needed, the Incident Commander will advise communications and they will be assigned if available. The order will be:

OPS8, OPS9

#### 10.5F OPS 4 Talk Group

- This is the primary responding talk group for fire and EMS departments located in the West Area and includes:

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| • Station 3   | • EMS Station 3   |
| • Station 4   | • EMS Station 4   |
| • Station 7   | • EMS Station 18  |
| • Station 8   | • EMS Station 49  |
| • Station 11  | • EMS Station 52  |
| • Station 12  | • EMS Station 58  |
| • Station 18  | • EMS Station 59  |
| • Station 33  | • EMS Station 62  |
| • Station 46  | • EMS Station 112 |
| • Station 47  | • EMS Station 7-9 |
| • Station 49  | • EMS Station 49  |
| • Station 52  | • Medic 46        |
| • Station 53  | • Medic 97-2      |
| • Station 58  |                   |
| • Station 59  |                   |
| • Station 61  |                   |
| • Station 62  |                   |
| • Station 63  |                   |
| • Station 112 |                   |

If additional talk groups are needed, the Incident Commander will advise communications and they will be assigned if available. The order will be:

OPS10, OPS11

10.5G OPS 5 Talk Group

- This is the primary responding talk group for fire and EMS departments located in the East Area and includes:

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| • Station 19 | • EMS Station 19 |
| • Station 21 | • EMS Station 37 |
| • Station 34 | • EMS Station 39 |
| • Station 35 | • EMS Station 41 |
| • Station 36 | • EMS Station 42 |
| • Station 37 | • EMS Station 54 |
| • Station 38 | • EMS Station 36 |
| • Station 39 | • EMS Station 56 |
| • Station 41 | • EMS Station 57 |
| • Station 42 | • Medic 97-3     |
| • Station 43 |                  |
| • Station 44 |                  |
| • Station 45 |                  |
| • Station 54 |                  |
| • Station 55 |                  |
| • Station 56 |                  |
| • Station 57 |                  |

If additional talk groups are needed, the Incident Commander will advise communications and they will be assigned if available. The order will be:

OPS12, OPS13

**10.6 FIRE POLICE TALK GROUPS**

10.6A GENERAL

Fire Police talk groups are broken down as follows:

- FP 2
- FP 3
- FP 4
- FP 5
- FP 6
- FP 7
- FP 8
- FP 9
- FP 10
- FP 11
- FP 12

- FP 13
- FP 14
- FP 15
- FP 16

**10.6B FP TALK GROUPS**

- As with fire and EMS each municipality has been assigned to a specific geographical area in the County (e.g. metro, north, west or east).
- Fifteen fire police operational talk groups have been allocated:
  - FP 2 through FP 16
- Fire police operations should follow the fire and EMS talk group that has been assigned to an incident (e.g. if fire is on OPS 2 then fire police for that incident will operate on the FP 2 talk group, if a fire incident is on OPS 6 the fire police will operate on the FP 6 talk group. This practice will allow Command to locate the fire police units easily. If a change is made, dispatch will announce it on the Fire Police talk group
- Fire Police Captain or Duty Officer will respond on the primary talk group and then move to the Fire Police Talk Group.
- Fire police talk groups are not typically monitored by Dispatch.

**10.7 HAZMAT AND EMA TALK GROUPS**

**10.7A GENERAL**

HazMat and EMA talk groups are broken down as follows:

Hazmat

- Hazmat 1
- Hzmsuit1
- Hzmsuit2
- Hzmt\_OPS
- EMA 1

EMA

- Hazmat 1
- Hzmsuit1
- Hzmsuit2
- Hzmt\_OPS
- EMA 1
- EMA 2

10.7B HAZMAT TALK GROUPS

- Hazmat and EMA will respond on the home talk group of the incident then switch to the assigned OPS talk group.